

D-3552

D-3554

D-3555

Memorandum.POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.Shanghai, 23:4:1932
To Reg.Please
attach file.

J.P.S.

S.I., Please see
and return to meJ.P.S.
24:4:32.File J.P.S.

Copy for O.C. (S.B.)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY

No. D. 3552

Date 23 / 4 / 32

Louza Police

April 22nd, 1932. YX

OTHER

DISAPPEARANCE OF A 19TH ROUTE ARMY OFFICER FROM THE
ORIENTAL HOTEL

D. I. Hall

Sir,

At 9.30a.m. this Inst, D. I. Hall and C. S. C. I. Tang Sau, went to No. 1361 Sinza Road, the Maritime Customs, Headquarters and interviewed Mr. Ku Yang Sih Bah.

Mr. Ku Yang is the Advisor to the 19th Route Army and is in charge of all accounts and expenditure for them. Without his signature nothing is ^{valid} ~~valued~~, and no money may be paid out. He stated that on the 18-4-32, the man Liang (*JK*) telephoned for him, but as he could not see him owing to business, he arranged to meet him on the following morning between 9.a.m. and 11.a.m. At about 11.a.m. on the 19th, Lian came and saw him and discussed with him the accounts and expenditure of the Mine-laying Flotilla, at Kiangyin and as a result of this, he gave Liang a cheque on the China State Bank for \$2,200., for the monthly expenses of his unit.

This bears out entirely the statement of the man Chang (*JK*).

Mr. Ku Yang was then asked regarding the character of the missing man, and he said that from all enquiries he had made, Liang was a very good man, not given to dissipation in any form and thoroughly to be trusted. On discussing his disappearance, Mr. Ku Yang stated that two theories could be dismissed entirely. Firstly, the theory of Kidnapping as Liang is not a rich man, nor well known, and secondly his abduction by a Foreign Power. This latter had been suggested

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DISAPPEARANCE OF A 19TH ROUTE ARMY OFFICER FROM THE
ORIENTAL HOTEL

D.I.Hall

by others as the theory was that he might have been held responsible by them for the attempt at the destruction of a foreign warship in Shanghai harbour.

(Japanese)
H.R.
This only left the question of internal dissent in his unit, and regarding this Mr. Lu Yang stated that his enquiries showed that prior to leaving Canton, there were differences amongst them, but what these differences were, he either could not or would not, say. Regarding this, Mr. Lu Yang has sent investigations to Kiangyin to try and find if the differences were such as to be responsible for the disappearance of Liang, and the results of these enquiries will be transmitted to the Police when available.

Later, this p.m., information received shows that whilst this Mine-laying unit was in Shanghai, other differences arose as a result of which, two men of the party left (One was dismissed as the result of a telegram sent to Canton by Liang and the other absconded from Kiangyin as the result of the loss of a secret document.) Both these men are believed to be in Shanghai, and a search is being instituted for them, as it is possible that they are responsible for Liang's disappearance.

The watchmen of the Oriental Hotel and the Great Eastern Hotel, who were on duty at the time of the disappearance, were questioned, but they were unable to furnish any information as they stated that many motor cars, came and went at their respective doorways, so that they could not remember any particular one.

NR 23/4
R. Hall D.I.

copy for D.B. (S.B.)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY

No. D 3552

Date 23/4/32

Louza Police

April 21st, 1932. xx

FURTHER

DISAPPEARANCE OF A 19TH ROUTE ARMY OFFICER FROM THE

ORIENTAL HOTEL

D.I. Hall

For J. Adams

Sir,

Further enquiries have been made during the 21-4-32 but nothing further has been found that would help to clear up this case.

The missing man is practically a stranger to Shanghai, having come from Canton only about one month ago, and as he is not a man of means, it does not seem that he has been kidnapped for ransom.

The theory that he had absconded with funds is also proved abortive as he was not in possession of any funds other than his own, so that it would seem that there is some political reason for his disappearance, at present not discernable.

Statements from the boys of the Oriental Hotel and his friend are attached but these throw no light on the reason for his disappearance.

Enquiries are being continued with on the 22-4-32 and will form the subject of a further report.

H. Robertson

R. Hall
D.I.

A description of the missing man has been circulated to all stations, French Police for inquiries at hotels, lodging houses, hospitals, without result.

Stations have also been requested to make inquiries at all garages for a motor car sent to the Oriental Hotel between 8:30 & 10:30 p.m. April 19, but no results have been obtained.

H. Robertson
C.D.I.

Soo Seu Tau ()

Hankow

Louza Station

21-4-32

Soo Seu Tau () age 44, Hankow, Tsapoo Road, employed as No.1 Boy on the 5th floor Oriental Hotel since the Hotel opened.

At about 8.30p.m. on the 19-4-32 I was sitting at my desk in the corridor near Room No.530, when Liang (), the occupant of the Room came up and told me that as he might be away all night, I was to lock the room and let no one else in there but his room mate Tsang (). He then joked with for a while and then went back into his room, and I did not see him again as I had finished my tour of duty and went home shortly afterwards.

The following morning, Tsang appeared anxious regarding the whereabouts of Liang so I told him what Liang had told me about being away for the night.

Tsang Ts Kwok ()

Canton

Louza (tation

21-4-32

Tsang Ts Kwok (), 37, Canton, Captain of Chinese Navy, Room 530 Oriental Hotel.

On the 16-4-32 I and Liang Taung () my superior officer came to Shanghai from Kiangyin in order to get some money for the pay of a mine laying flotilla at Kiangyin. As it was a Saturday when we arrived we were unable to do anything in the matter until Monday, so we lazed around the Hotel. On Monday morning Liang went to see Bu Yang Sih Bah () but was unable to meet him, so a meeting was arranged for Tuesday morning at 11.a.m. in the Customs Headquarters on Sinza Road. This meeting was successful and Liang obtained a cheque for \$2,200. which I took to the China State Bank, 130 Ningpo Road and cashed, keeping the money in the room. I then stayed in the room till about 7.30p.m. when I went to Canton Road to buy some collars and there I met a friend of mine from Kiangyin named Ying Wei Zung () and he and I went to a Sing Song House, address unknown, for a short while. Here we met another man, a friend of Ying's and the three of us went to a cinema. After the cinema, we then all went to my room where we arrived at about 12.05a.m. and called some Sing Song Girls and eventually they all left at about 1.30a.m. When I entered the room, I found the note left by Liang, so when my friends had gone I lay on the bed, but did not go to sleep as I had locked the door on the inside and expected Liang to come back.

I did not sleep at all and got up at about 10.a.m. and began looking for Liang in a teashop we were in the habit of using and when he did not return, I went back to the hotel. I then asked

Tsang Ts Kwok

the boys of the Hotel and the "No.1" told me that Liang had said that he expected to be out all night. I then waited around until about 5.p.m. when I met Daung Lai Kyi () and we then tried to get into touch with Eu Yang Shih Bah by telephone but were unsuccessful. At about 8.p.m. a telephone message came for me from an unknown person, saying that Liang had been abducted by Japanese and that I had better ^{leave} ~~come~~ the Hotel if I valued my life. I then became very frightened and went to Central Police Station to see my old school friend Lo Tsuan Shih () and we then took the \$2,200 to the Customs Headquarters for safekeeping for which I have a receipt from a man named Chang ().

Regarding the \$150,000. nothing definite had been arranged about that. When we came to Shanghai for the pay of the men, we thought it would be a good opportunity to get some money for mines and torpedoes, but as, when we were here, we received notice that they were not required, we did not take any action.

Tseu Sing Tsaung (),

Ningpo

Louza Station

21-4-32

Tseu Sing Tsaung () 23, Ningpo, 321 Kyung Zen Li, Elgin Road employed as Boy No.122 of the Oriental Hotel. I have been employed here for over a year, prior to which I was employed in Dollar Hotel, Avenue Edward VII French Town for 2 years, and I am guaranteed by the Hong Yuen () Restaurant, Seward Road.

At present, from the 19th inst, I am on duty on the 5th floor of the Oriental Hotel from 12 noon to 12 M.N. and together with other boys we look after 14 rooms, Nos.524-537.

Just over a week ago Room No.530 was rented by two Cantonese named Liang () and Tsang () whom, I heard from the accountants office, were officers of the 19th Route Army. They did not receive many visitors, but were friendly with the occupants of Room No.526 opened by a man named Taung (), who in turn was friendly with the occupant of Room No. 532, named Yoong () and the occupants of these 3 rooms since about the 16th when Room No.526 was rented, were always visiting each other.

Just about 9.p.m. on the 19-4-32, I was on duty when the telephone in the passage rang. I answered the phone and a Cantonese asked me to call the man Liang from Room 530. He spoke in Cantonese which I understood. I went in the room where Liang was lying on the sofa reading a paper, fully dressed except for his shoes. He answered the phone in his slippers. At the phone I heard Liang say "Yes I am Mr. Liang of No.530" Pause. "Alright, alright") and he then rang off and went to the lavatory. A minute or so later he came out and went back to his room, put

Tseu Sing Tsaung

his shoes on and came out with his hat on also. He then told the No.1 Boy who happened to be present, to lock the room and let no one in but Tsang, who lived there with him.

He then walked up and down in the corridor for a while until a man wearing a black long gown and small Chinese hat came up and asked me for Room No.530. I then pointed out Mr. Liang, who came over and asked this man where he had come from. He mentioned a road, the name of which I could not hear distinctly and then told Liang that the car was waiting outside the Great Eastern Hotel. (No parking is allowed on Nanking Road at this Hotel entrance)

The Chauffeur then left and Liang again went into his room for a short while and on coming out, told me to lock the door and he entered the lift and descended. This was at about 9.30p.m. and was the last I saw of him.

Copy for O.B. (S.B.)
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE. *H.R.*

File No.

REPORT

Louza Station,

Date 20th April 19 32

Subject (in full) Disappearance of a 19th Route Army Officer from the
Oriental Hotel.

Made by D.I. Hall. Forwarded by Jas. L. Adams
Ct.

Sir,

At 11.30 p.m. this inst., Interpreter Loo Tsuan Shih of Central Police Station Charge Room, came to the Station with a Cantonese named Tsang Ts Kwok (叶志國) and reported that another Cantonese named Liang Taung (梁堂) had been missing since 9.30 p.m. the 19-4-32.

Enquiries were made by D.I. Hall, D.S. Burton and C.D.S. 130 when the following facts were learned.

The two men, Tsang Ts Kwok (叶志國) and Liang Taung (梁堂) are Captains in the Cantonese Flotilla of the Chinese Navy attached to the 19th Route Army at Kiangyin. On the 15-4-32 they both returned to Shanghai from Kiangyin in order to await a sum of \$150,000.00 which was to be used for the purchasing of materials for the making of mines. This money was to be sent to them by Admiral Zung Tsah from Hongkong, after previous due warning having been sent them.

As far as can be ascertained at present, no money has been forwarded. On arrival in Shanghai, they booked Room No. 530 of the Oriental Hotel and have been staying there since. On the night of the 19-4-32 the man Tsang Ts Kwok left the Hotel at 7.30 p.m. and returned at 12 m.n. after having been taken to a cinema

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

- 2 -

..... Station,

Date 19

Subject (in full)

Made by Forwarded by

by two friends of his.

On his return he found a chit lying on the table in the room written by the man Liang Taung, in which he stated that he had gone to visit a man named Lu Yang (呂陽) living at No. 2 Heien Road of Yu Yuen Road, who is an Advisor to the 19th Route Army. He thought nothing of this but went to bed and even when Liang Taung did not return during the day of the 20-4-32 he was under the impression that he was staying with Lu Yang. However at about 8.30 p.m. 20-4-32 he received a telephone call from an unknown Chinese, speaking Mandarin dialect, who warned him to leave his room in the Hotel if he wished to remain alive, and that the other man had been taken away by Japanese. He was unable to obtain the name of the person telephoning. He then realised that something was wrong and got into touch with the interpreter whom he knew whilst at School in Canton, and the report was made to the Station.

Enquiries were immediately made at the house of Lu Yang but this man strenuously denied having sent for Captain Liang, as all the business he had had with him had been completed.

Further enquiries were made at the Hotel but as the boys on duty at the time of the occurrence were not present, it was not possible to get any information from them. They will be questioned on the

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

- 3 -

..... Station,

Date 19

Subject (in full)

Made by Forwarded by

21-4-32. A ^{small} amount of information was obtained from ^a ~~the~~ man Toong
李鴻, who is a friend of the absent man. He is a Lieut of the
19th Route Army, living at No. 4 Tatung Road, but having a room
No. 529 in the Oriental Hotel for amusement. At the time that
the man Liang Taung received the telephone message, about 9.30p.m.
he was present and Liang remarked to him on the lateness of the
hour. A few minutes later, a chauffeur, description at present
unknown, and not seen by the man Toong, called for Liang and left
with him, presumably in a motor car, the number of which is
unknown. There does not at present appear to be any reason for
this man being kidnapped, and until further enquiries are made
regarding the \$150,000.00, we cannot say that he has absconded
with this amount. Further enquiries are being prosecuted on the
21-4-32 and will be the subject of a further ^{report} ~~story~~.

A.R.

[Signature]
D. I.